

Corvallis School District #1

P.O. Box 700 / 1045 Main
Corvallis, MT 59828

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Monte Silk
Superintendent
961-4211

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High School Principal
961-3201

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Assistant Principal
Athletic Director
961-3201

Rich Durgin
Middle School Principal
961-3007

Janice Stranahan
Primary School Principal
961-3261

Daniel Carrasco
Special Education Director
961-3201

Russ Hendrickson
Technology Director
961-3201

Wendy Ihde
Curriculum Director
961-3007

Vannesa Bargfrede
Business Manager
District Clerk
961-4211

February 20, 2014

To: Accreditation and Educator Preparation Division
From: Janice Stranahan, Quentin Brown Primary
Re: Variances to Standards Application

Quentin Brown Primary did not meet the FTE requirement for school counselors. We have a 1.0 FTE counselor for 412 students. The accreditation requirement is a 1.03 FTE counselor.

To provide support for students who need additional help in school, we hired a .5 FTE teacher/program coordinator for the Responsibility Room. The primary role of the Responsibility Room teacher is to interact with students, staff and parents relative to the improvement of academic performance and behavior within the building, on the school bus and on the school grounds. The Responsibility Room teacher is responsible for all actions necessary to support the administration, counselor and teachers in promoting positive academic and behavioral performance of students.

Sincerely,



Janice Stranahan, Principal

cc. Monte Silk, Superintendent
Vannesa Bargfrede, Clerk/Business Manager



VARIANCES TO STANDARDS APPLICATION

March 3, 2014

Purpose: ARM 10.55.604.1. A local board of trustees may apply to the Board of Public Education through the Superintendent of Public Instruction to implement a variance to a standard or a section of standards, excluding standards stating statutory criteria, standards pertaining to educator licensure or endorsement, and content standards as defined by the Board of Public Education and provided in guidance from the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

DUE DATES

- First semester implementation; March 3, 2014
 - Second semester implementation; July 7, 2014
-

COUNTY: Ravalli

DISTRICT: Corvallis School District #1

LIST THE SCHOOL OR MULTIPLE SCHOOLS THAT ARE REQUESTING THE VARIANCE(S): Quentin Brown Primary

1. **Is this an initial application (2 years) or a Renewal application (3 years)?**
Renewal application (3 years)
2. **Is this for first semester implementation or second semester implementation?**
First Semester
3. **Standard(s) for which a variance is requested, i.e., 10.55.709. If there is a program delivery standard, be sure to list it as well. For example, 10.55.1801.**
10.55.710 Assignment of School Counseling Staff
4. **Please attach evidence through official minutes of the board of trustees that local school community stakeholders were involved in the consideration and development of the proposed variance to standards. Stakeholder groups include trustees, administrators, teachers, classified school staff, parents, community members, and students as applicable.**
See attached minutes of school board meeting on 2-18-14 & sign-in sheet for attendance.
5. **Please provide evidence that the board of trustees adopted its application for variance at an official, properly noticed meeting of its board of trustees.**
See attached minutes of school board meeting on 2-18-14.
6. **Describe the variance requested.**





The current accreditation rule requires a minimum equivalent of one full-time counselor for each 400 elementary (K-8) students. Quentin Brown Primary enrollment is 412 students requiring 1.03 FTE counselors.

We hired a 1.0 FTE counselor but did not hire the .03 FTE counselor. In place of the .03 FTE counselor, we hired a .5 FTE teacher/program coordinator for the Responsibility Room. The purpose of the Responsibility Room is to meet the diverse needs of the at-risk students and support the counseling program. This program is designed as a pro-active "team approach" to student support.

The .5 FTE teacher/ coordinator for the Responsibility Room facilitates & coordinates interventions for students who struggle in school. At-risk students are identified through referrals from teachers, parents & the counselor. We also use data from SWIS (a web-based school wide information system). The Student Intervention Team consisting of teachers, counselors, parents & administrators review the referrals. The Student Intervention Team plans intervention strategies and support programs for students. The Responsibility Room teacher carries out the program by meeting regularly with students. She helps the students develop successful behaviors, attitudes & habits which contribute to their overall academic & behavioral success.

7. Provide a brief statement of the mission and goals of this proposed variance.

The mission of the Responsibility Room program is to provide support & guidance for at-risk students through a positive school based team approach.

Objectives:

1. To help students develop successful behaviors, attitudes & habits which contribute to their overall success in school.
2. To provide a loving, caring & safe environment where at-risk students can receive support and help as they work through challenges.

8. List at least one specific measurable objective(s) that demonstrates that the proposed variance will meet or exceed the results under the current standard(s).

Academic Objective: Students will demonstrate improvement in academic performance as indicated on the DIBELS & MAP assessments using regular "progress monitoring".

Behavioral Objective: Students will demonstrate improvement in behavioral issues with decreased discipline referrals as indicated on SWIS (School-Wide Information System).

9. What data or evidence will be gathered to document progress toward meeting the measurable objectives?





The following measures will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the alternative:

1. All K-4 students are evaluated three times a year using the DIBELS measure (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills). The measure indicates the reading level of each student. Weekly "progress monitoring" occurs for students who are at-risk.
2. All K-4 students are evaluated three times a year using the MAP (Measure of Academic Progress). The computerized assessment measures academic growth in reading & math.
3. The SWIS (School-Wide Information System) is used to collect ongoing information about discipline events in the school. It provides summaries of the information for use in designing effective behavior support for individual students, groups of students or the whole student body.

10. In what way does this variance to standard meet the specific needs of the students in your school(s)?

The Responsibility Room teacher provides consistent (3 hours each day) support to students with academic & behavioral challenges. The teacher focuses on and advocates for the at-risk population in our school. In contrast, the counselor must be available to all 441 students, staff and parents and is limited to the standards for school counselors.

11. Variance to Standard: Outline how and why the proposed variance would be:

a. Workable. (Sufficient district resources are available for the success of the variance.)

Corvallis School District committed the resources for a .5 FTE Responsibility Room teacher/coordinator for the last three years. The plan is to continue the program.

b. Educationally sound. (Applicant has relied on sound research as a rationale for the variance.)

We used recommended strategies from "Research-Based Strategies - Narrowing the Achievement Gap for Under-Resourced Student" by Ruby K. Payne, Ph.D to make decisions regarding the variance of standard.

c. Where applicable, aligned with program standards under ARM 10.55.1101 through 10.55.1901.

The purpose of the Responsibility Room is to meet the diverse needs of the at-risk students and support the counseling program. The School Counseling Program Delivery Standards 10.55.1901 were reviewed and used as a guideline for our support program.

12. Designed to meet the content standards for this area of the curriculum (only applies to those standards which also have related curriculum content standards).

The counseling program at Corvallis School District is aligned to the National Standards for School Counseling Programs of the American School Counselor Association. School counselors provide a planned, sequential program of guidance and counseling services based upon students' developmental and special needs. The program consists of the following components:

1. COUNSELING is conducted with students individually and in small groups to help them resolve or cope constructively with their problems and developmental concerns. Counseling also is conducted



with parents individually and in small groups regarding parenting concerns, child development, and methods parents may use to help children experience healthy development and success in school.

2. CLASSROOM GUIDANCE is a planned, developmental program of guidance activities to foster students' academic, personal-social and career development that is provided for all students through a collaborative effort by counselors and teachers. Counselors help teachers plan and conduct classroom guidance sessions and also conduct some of the sessions. The classroom guidance curriculum focuses on topics such as self understanding, interpersonal skills, career awareness, problem-solving and decision-making techniques, as well as behavior and attitudes necessary for success in education, careers, and citizenship.

3. CONSULTATION is conducted with parents, teachers, administrators, school psychologists, social workers, medical professionals and community agency personnel. This provides for the mutual sharing and analysis of information as well as ideas to plan and carry out strategies that help students who are experiencing problems.

4. The COORDINATION component requires school counselors to perform the following functions: a) collaborate with other student support staff and professionals, using school and community resources to help students resolve problems which interfere with learning; b) assist parents in obtaining needed services for their children through a referral and follow-up process; c) serve as a liaison between the school and community agencies so that they may collaborate in efforts to help students; d) plan and coordinate the counseling program, including periodic evaluations to determine program effectiveness; e) provide in-service and support for teachers and school staff.

CORVALLIS SCHOOL DISTRICT EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Education is the means by which a community and nation prepares its youth to assume their place as productive and contributing adults.

The Corvallis Schools are composed of a unique and special blend of students, faculty, and community. These three components work together to provide students with a quality education.

A quality education:

- prepares students to adapt and succeed in a world of change
- teaches both basic skills and the ability to think critically
- is student-centered and directed to meeting the individual needs of students at every level of development
- teaches responsibility and self-discipline
- teaches cooperative skills
- builds self-confidence and a sense of achievement
- creates a lifelong desire and ability to learn
- fosters awareness of the complexity and diversity of the world
- requires a school-wide climate which is positive and accepting, yet encourages high expectations



Adherence to this philosophy will insure that all students have the opportunity for an educational experience which meets their needs and the needs of the community in which they will take their place.

Belief Statements

- Learning is the #1 priority of our school.
- Students learn in different ways and at different rates; all students can learn, achieve, and succeed with the appropriate resources.
- Challenging expectations and active engagement in learning increase individual student performance.
- Students learn best when taught by highly qualified professionals.
- Student learning and development are enhanced by positive relationships and mutual respect among and between students and staff.
- Exposure to and participation in the arts are essential to the learning and full development of the individual.
- A safe and physically comfortable environment promotes student learning.
- The school plays an essential role in the development of the character of young people.
- The school plays an essential role in providing opportunities for the development of students' physical skills and the encouragement of healthy habits.

Teachers, parents and community members share responsibility for the support of the school district's mission.

CORVALLIS COUNSELING PHILOSOPHY

In alignment with the Corvallis School District educational philosophy, we believe that every student is unique, valuable and worthy of respect. In collaboration with families and school staff, we feel that each student should be given opportunities to achieve and be successful. Counseling services are an integral part of education and are available to all students.

CORVALLIS COUNSELING OVERVIEW

The Corvallis K-12 comprehensive school counseling program is available to all students. The program is designed to reduce barriers to learning and encourage enjoyment of learning in the school environment. The school counselors, in collaboration with families, staff and colleagues will advocate for the success of all students by meeting their developmental needs through activities in the areas of academic, personal/social and career development. The counseling program will aid students in becoming productive, caring citizens by providing skills for life, encouraging life-long learning and promoting a realistic sense of self. The school counselors will consult and collaborate with families, staff and colleagues to understand student development and needs. Counselors will embrace and consider multi-cultural needs of students. A quality research-based program will be maintained through participation in professional development activities and data-driven decision making. The counseling program will at all times uphold ethical integrity.



GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING PROGRAM

The guidance process is the part of the school program designed to help students develop a realistic self concept, acquire knowledge of available educational and vocational opportunities, and make appropriate personal adjustments and decisions.

NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAMS

The National Standards for School Counseling Programs are what the ASCA believes to be the essential elements of a quality and effective school counseling program. The standards address program content and the knowledge, attitudes, and skill competencies that all students will develop as a result of participating in a school counseling program.

I. Academic Development

- Standard A. Students will acquire the attitudes, knowledge, and skills that contribute to effective learning in school and across the life span.
- Standard B. Students will complete school with the academic preparation essential to choose from a wide variety of substantial postsecondary options, including college.
- Standard C. Students will understand the relationship of academics to the world of work, and to life at home and in the community.

II. Career Development

- Standard A. Students will acquire the skills to investigate the world of work in relation to knowledge of self and to make informed career decisions.
- Standard B. Students will employ strategies to achieve future career success and satisfaction.
- Standard C. Students will understand the relationship between personal qualities, education and training, and the world of work.

III. Personal/Social Development

- Standard A. Students will acquire the attitudes, knowledge, and interpersonal skills to help them understand and respect self and others.
- Standard B. Students will make decisions, set goals, and take appropriate action to achieve goals.
- Standard C. Students will understand safety and survival skills.

The National Standards for School Counseling Programs assist school counselors, school and district administrators, faculty and staff, parents, counselor educators, state associations, business community and policy makers to provide effective school counseling programs for all students.



Note: The 1 FTE counselor at Quentin Brown Primary will continue to provide a comprehensive program for the students. Our program will not change, but I am requesting a variance to the standard in how we deliver the program components & support for the students in our school. We hired a .5 FTE Responsibility Room teacher in place of the additional .03 FTE counselor requirement. The .5 FTE teacher supports the counseling program by working with at-risk students every afternoon. She collaborates with the counselor & teachers to provide consistency and follow-up for students who are struggling. Her role is to support the counselor in helping students develop successful behaviors, attitudes & habits which contribute to their overall success in school.

RENEWAL APPLICATION ONLY: Please attach a summary of the data gathered to demonstrate that the variance cycle ending June 30, met or exceeded the standard. State the measurable objective for the initial or previous application.

Mail your signed form to:

**Accreditation and Educator Preparation Division
Office of Public Instruction
PO Box 202501
Helena, MT 59620-2501**

Board Chair Name: Wilbur Nisly

Board Chair Signature: Wilbur Nisly Date: 2-18-2014

Superintendent Name: Monte Silk

Superintendent Signature: Monte Silk Date: 2-18-2014



Montana
Office of Public Instruction
Denise Juneau, State Superintendent

opi.mt.gov

OPI USE ONLY

Superintendent of Public Instruction:

Date _____

____ Approve ____ Disapprove

Board of Public Education Chair,

Date 5/9/14

✓ Approve ____ Disapprove



Summary of the data gathered to demonstrate that the variance cycle ending June 30, met or exceeded the standards.

The following measures were used to evaluate the effectiveness of the alternative:

1. The SWIS (School-Wide Information System) is used to collect ongoing information about discipline events in the school. It provides summaries of the information for use in designing effective behavior support for individual students, groups of students or the whole student body.
2. All K-4 students are evaluated three times a year using the DIBELS measure (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills). The measure indicates the reading level of each student. Weekly "progress monitoring" occurs for students who are at-risk.
3. All K-4 students are evaluated three times a year using the MAP (Measure of Academic Progress). The computerized assessment measures academic growth in reading & math.

*Please see attached supporting data from DIBELS, MAP & SWIS reports.

SWIS data analysis:

SWIS data shows that Quentin Brown Primary has a decrease in discipline referrals for the past two years. In 2011-2012, we had 636 referrals. In 2012-2013, the total dropped to 558 referrals. We are continuing to gather data for this year and predict the referrals will decrease from the previous year. See attached report.

DIBELS data analysis:

DIBELS data indicates that students are showing growth in reading. In the fall of 2012, we had 168 students who were at-risk in reading. In the spring, the number was reduced to 147 students. Benchmark and strategic students increased from 260 students to 280 students. In the fall of 2013, we had 79 students who were at-risk in reading. The mid-year test indicates that we have 60 students at-risk. Benchmark and strategic students increase from 339 students to 349 students. The students will be assessed again in the spring of this year. See attached report.

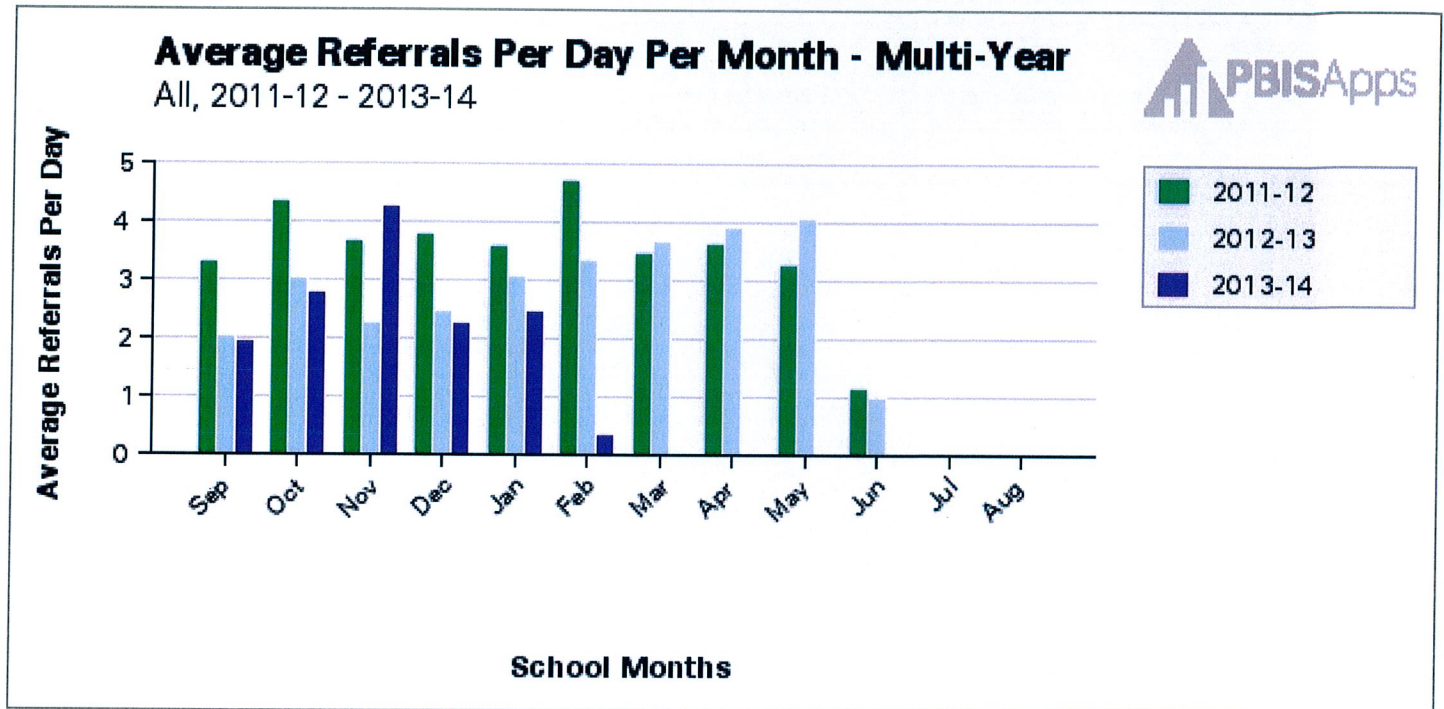
Map data analysis:

MAP data indicates that students continue to exceed the "mean growth projection" in reading and math. See attached report.



Average Referrals Per Day Per Month - Multi-Year
2011-12 - 2013-14

Referral Type: All Referrals & Minors
Show National Data on Graph: No



Data Table

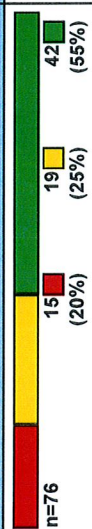
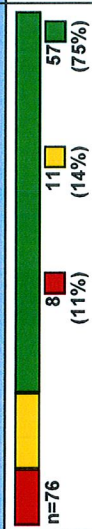
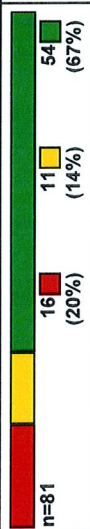

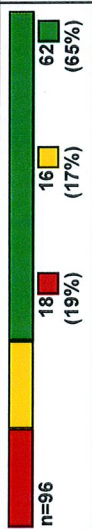

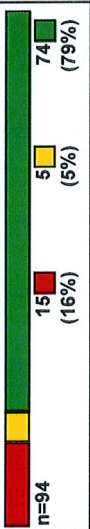
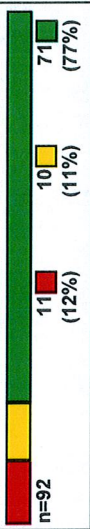



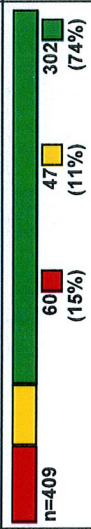
Month	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
January	61	68	50
February	80	64	7
March	77	59	0
April	62	86	0
May	72	90	0
June	7	5	0
July	0	0	0
August	0	0	0
September	63	37	39
October	83	64	59
November	70	48	77
December	61	37	34
Totals:	636	558	266

All Grades Status - DIBELS Next - Former Goals

District: Corvallis School District #1




School: Corvallis Primary School

Year: 2013

Grade	Beginning	Middle	End
K	 n=76	 n=76	No students with data.
1st	 n=81	 n=78	No students with data.
2nd	 n=96	 n=95	No students with data.
3rd	 n=94	 n=92	No students with data.
4th	 n=71	 n=68	No students with data.
5th	No students with data.	No students with data.	No students with data.
6th	No students with data.	No students with data.	No students with data.
All	 n=418	 n=409	No students with data.

Legend:

n = Number of Students

-  At Risk / Deficit / Intensive Support
-  Some Risk / Emerging / Strategic Support
-  Low Risk / Established / Core Support

Results Based On:

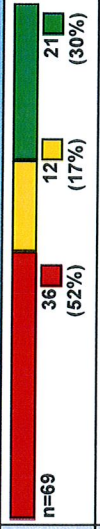
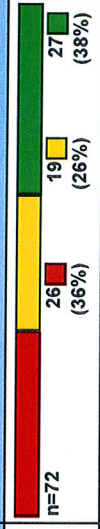
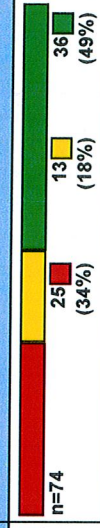
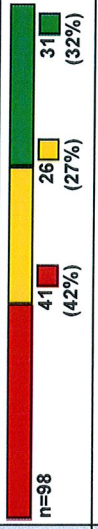
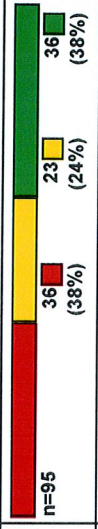
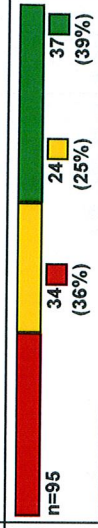
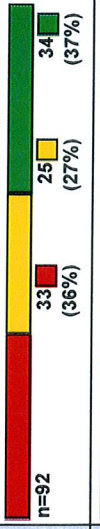
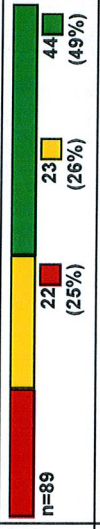
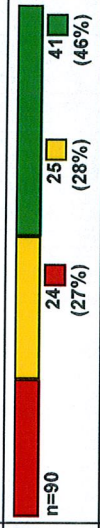
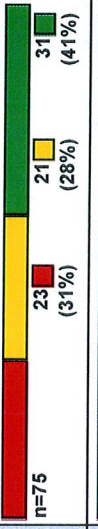
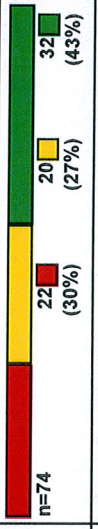
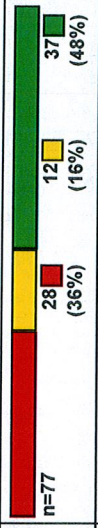
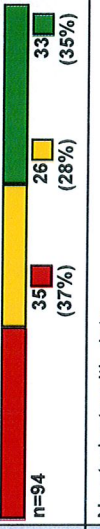
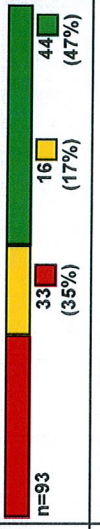
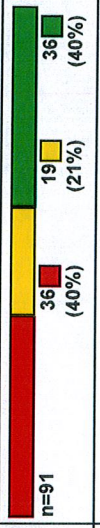
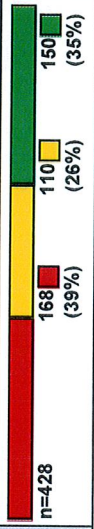
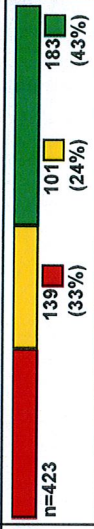
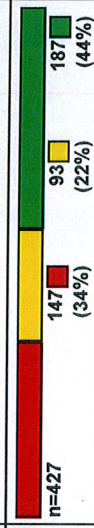
DIBELS Composite Score

All Grades Status - DIBELS Next - Recommended Goals

District: Corvallis School District #1

School: Corvallis Primary School

Year: 2012

Grade	Beginning	Middle	End
K	 n=69 36 (52%) 12 (17%) 21 (30%)	 n=72 26 (36%) 19 (26%) 27 (38%)	 n=74 25 (34%) 13 (18%) 36 (49%)
1st	 n=98 41 (42%) 26 (27%) 31 (32%)	 n=95 36 (38%) 23 (24%) 36 (38%)	 n=95 34 (36%) 24 (25%) 37 (39%)
2nd	 n=92 33 (36%) 25 (27%) 34 (37%)	 n=89 22 (25%) 23 (26%) 44 (49%)	 n=90 24 (27%) 25 (28%) 41 (46%)
3rd	 n=75 23 (31%) 21 (28%) 31 (41%)	 n=74 22 (30%) 20 (27%) 32 (43%)	 n=77 28 (36%) 12 (16%) 37 (48%)
4th	 n=94 35 (37%) 26 (28%) 33 (35%)	 n=93 33 (35%) 16 (17%) 44 (47%)	 n=91 36 (40%) 19 (21%) 36 (40%)
5th	No students with data.	No students with data.	No students with data.
6th	No students with data.	No students with data.	No students with data.
All	 n=428 168 (39%) 110 (26%) 150 (35%)	 n=423 139 (33%) 101 (24%) 183 (43%)	 n=427 147 (34%) 93 (22%) 187 (44%)

Legend:

n = Number of Students

- At Risk / Deficit / Intensive Support
- Some Risk / Emerging / Strategic Support
- Low Risk / Established / Core Support

Results Based On:

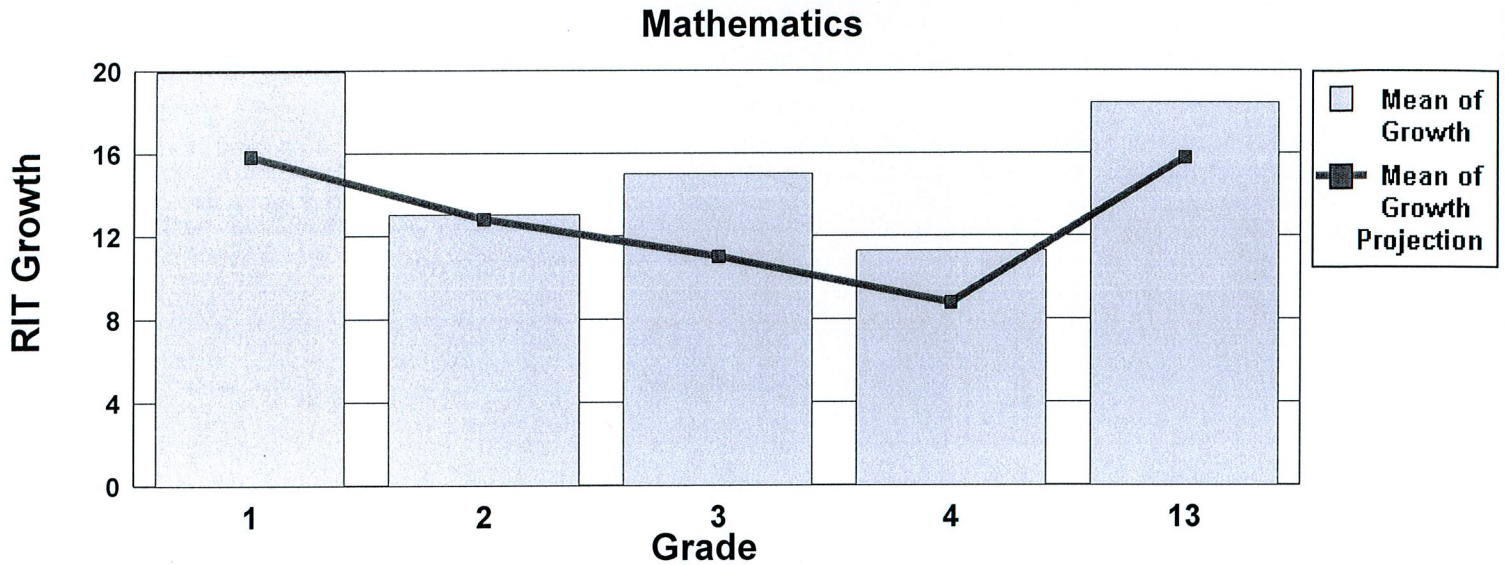
- K-Beginning: LNF
- K-Middle - 1st-Beginning: NWF-CLS
- 1st-Middle - 6th-End: DORF-Words Correct

Student Growth Summary - Fall 2011 to Spring 2012

School: Corvallis Primary School

*(Small Group Summary Display is OFF)

Mathematics		Fall 2011		Spring 2012		Growth			Mean **			Count	Percent
Grade (Spring 2012)	Count	Mean RIT	Std Dev	Mean RIT	Std Dev	Mean	Std Dev	Sampling Error	Growth Projection	Growth Index	Percent of Projection	Meeting Growth Projection	Meeting Growth Projection
Grade 1	82	163.8	12.2	183.7	10.9	19.9	9.7	1.1	15.8	4.1	126.0	57	69.5
Grade 2	67	181.0	11.0	194.0	10.7	13.0	7.1	0.9	12.8	0.2	101.7	37	55.2
Grade 3	87	192.2	11.2	207.2	11.2	15.0	8.2	0.9	11.0	4.0	136.5	66	75.9
Grade 4	92	205.3	12.7	216.6	12.7	11.3	6.5	0.7	8.8	2.5	128.7	61	66.3
Grade 13	91	144.7	8.8	163.2	11.6	18.5	8.3	0.9	15.8	2.7	119.7	57	64.0



* Summary data for groups with less than 10 students are suppressed because they are not statistically reliable.

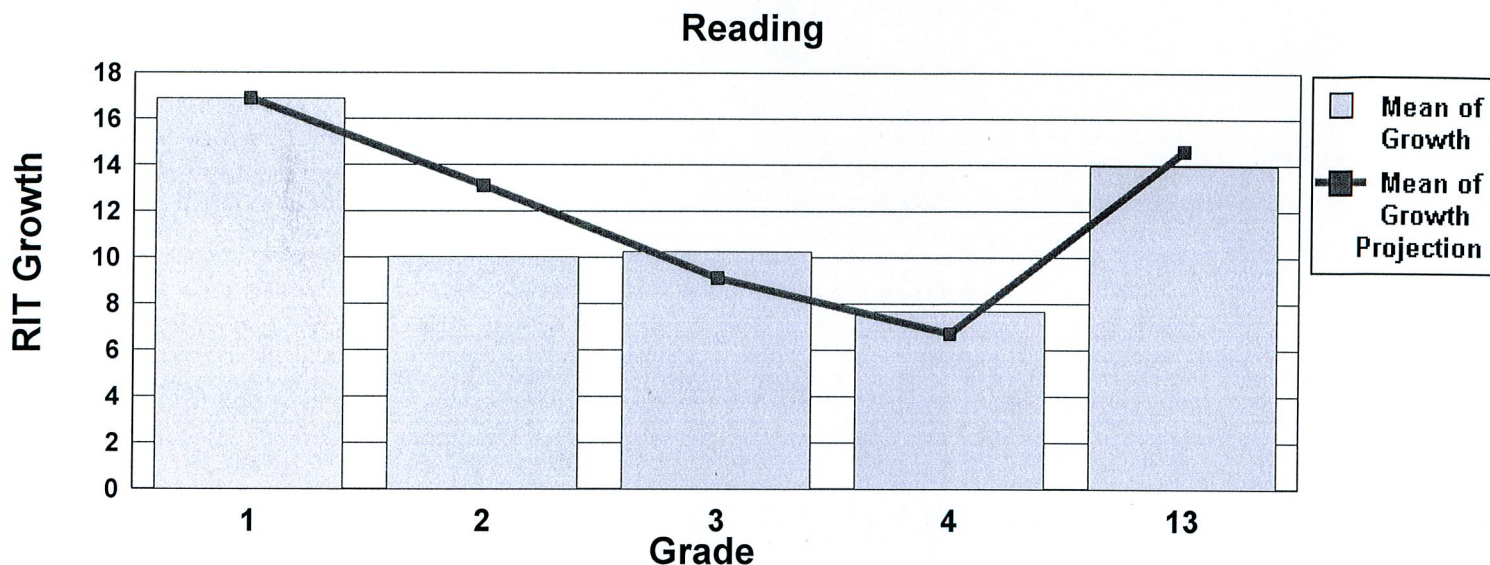
** All projections based on the most recent NWEA RIT Scale Norms study.

Student Growth Summary - Fall 2011 to Spring 2012

School: Corvallis Primary School

*(Small Group Summary Display is OFF)

Reading		Fall 2011		Spring 2012		Growth			Mean **			Count	Percent
Grade (Spring 2012)	Count	Mean RIT	Std Dev	Mean RIT	Std Dev	Mean	Std Dev	Sampling Error	Growth Projection	Growth Index	Percent of Projection	Meeting Growth Projection	Meeting Growth Projection
Grade 1	82	164.7	10.9	181.5	12.4	16.8	7.8	0.9	16.9	0.0	100.0	43	52.4
Grade 2	67	180.8	12.4	190.9	11.1	10.1	8.1	1.0	13.1	-3.1	76.5	24	35.8
Grade 3	86	192.4	15.1	202.7	11.2	10.3	9.6	1.0	9.1	1.1	112.4	50	58.1
Grade 4	92	202.3	14.6	209.9	11.4	7.6	7.9	0.8	6.7	0.9	115.4	46	50.5
Grade 13	90	147.3	8.3	161.3	10.6	14.0	8.6	0.9	14.6	-0.6	97.8	43	48.9



* Summary data for groups with less than 10 students are suppressed because they are not statistically reliable.

** All projections based on the most recent NWEA RIT Scale Norms study.

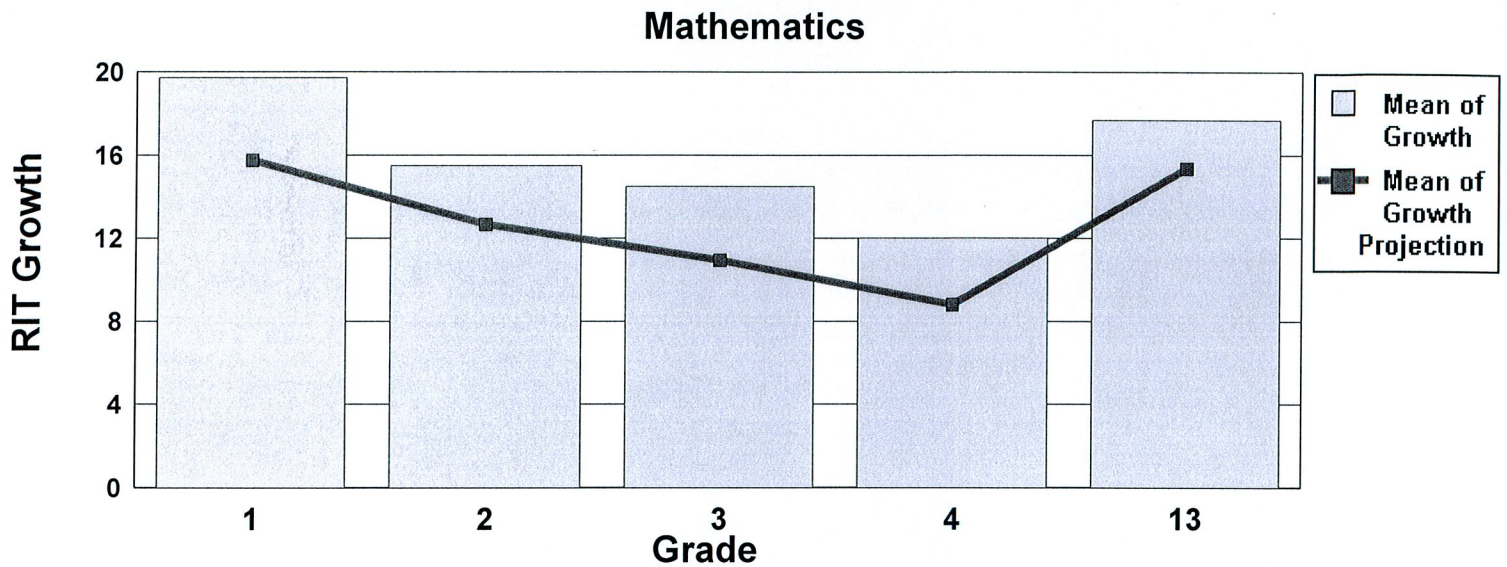
Student Growth Summary - Fall 2012 to Spring 2013

District: Corvallis School District #1

School: Corvallis Primary School

* (Small Group Summary Display is ON)

Mathematics		Fall 2012		Spring 2013		Growth			Mean **			Count	Percent
Grade (Spring 2013)	Count	Mean RIT	Std Dev	Mean RIT	Std Dev	Mean	Std Dev	Sampling Error	Growth Projection	Growth Index	Percent of Projection	Meeting Growth Projection	Meeting Growth Projection
Grade 1	92	164.3	10.4	184.1	11.9	19.8	8.2	0.9	15.8	4.0	125.3	65	70.7
Grade 2	85	181.6	12.5	197.1	10.1	15.5	8.5	0.9	12.7	2.8	123.9	58	69.0
Grade 3	71	192.8	10.8	207.4	10.8	14.6	6.7	0.8	10.9	3.6	132.6	55	77.5
Grade 4	91	205.3	13.6	217.3	13.8	12.0	6.1	0.6	8.8	3.2	136.6	60	65.9
Grade 13	65	146.9	8.4	164.6	10.7	17.7	7.4	0.9	15.3	2.3	117.1	44	68.8



* Summary data for groups with less than 10 students are shown as selected, but may not be statistically reliable.

** All projections based on the most recent NWEA RIT Scale Norms study.

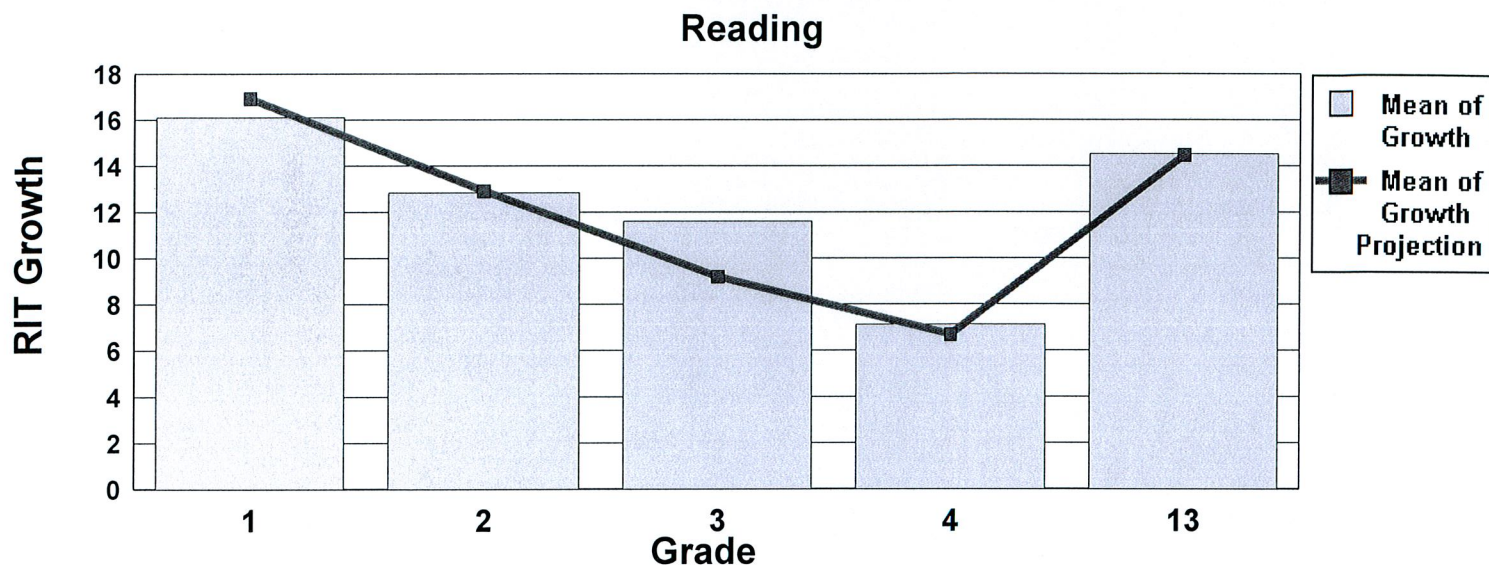
Student Growth Summary - Fall 2012 to Spring 2013

District: Corvallis School District #1

School: Corvallis Primary School

* (Small Group Summary Display is ON)

Reading		Fall 2012		Spring 2013		Growth			Mean **			Count Meeting	Percent Meeting
Grade (Spring 2013)	Count	Mean RIT	Std Dev	Mean RIT	Std Dev	Mean	Std Dev	Sampling Error	Growth Projection	Growth Index	Percent of Projection	Growth Projection	Growth Projection
Grade 1	91	165.0	11.1	181.1	12.2	16.1	8.8	0.9	16.9	-0.8	95.3	51	56.0
Grade 2	85	181.7	13.2	194.6	11.9	12.9	7.1	0.8	12.9	-0.1	99.5	39	45.9
Grade 3	71	191.2	14.5	202.8	12.0	11.6	8.5	1.0	9.2	2.4	126.2	44	62.0
Grade 4	90	202.6	12.7	209.7	11.9	7.1	6.8	0.7	6.7	0.5	106.8	52	57.8
Grade 13	66	148.5	8.2	163.1	9.7	14.6	7.4	0.9	14.5	0.1	103.6	34	53.1



* Summary data for groups with less than 10 students are shown as selected, but may not be statistically reliable.

** All projections based on the most recent NWEA RIT Scale Norms study.

Corvallis School District #1

P.O. Box 700 / 1045 Main
Corvallis, MT 59828

Phone: (406) 961-4211 Fax: (406) 961-5144

Monte Silk
Superintendent
961-4211

Jason Wirt
High School Principal
961-3201

Tyson Tucker
High School
Assistant Principal
Athletic Director
961-3201

Rich Durgin
Middle School Principal
961-3007

Janice Stranahan
Primary School Principal
961-3261

Daniel Carrasco
Special Education Director
961-3201

Russ Hendrickson
Technology Director
961-3201

Wendy Ihde
Curriculum Director
961-3007

Vannesa Bargfrede
Business Manager
District Clerk
961-4211

February 19, 2014

Accreditation and Educator preparation Division
Office of Public Instruction
PO Box 20251
Helena, MT 59620-2501

RE: Variances to Standards Application
Quentin Brown Primary

To Whom it may Concern:

This is to inform you that the Corvallis School Board of Trustees approved for an extension for a variance request for the Quentin Brown Primary School.

This approval was made a publicly held Regular Board Meeting on February 18, 2014, in the Corvallis High School Library. I have attached a copy of the meeting agenda that was properly noticed.

The application which is due by March 3, 2014, asks for evidence of the board action through "official" minutes. The "official" minutes of the meeting will not be Board approved until March 11, 2014 board meeting. Therefore, I am providing you with some information and the actual action taken by the board at the meeting. The official minutes will be mailed to you on March 12, 2014.

The following agenda item was included in the Board Packet:

CORVALLIS SCHOOL DISTRICT #1

Agenda Item #12. Request approval for an extension of a variance to OPI accreditation standards for school counselor requirements

This variance request to the Board and OPI is a renewal of a previously approved application, but the three year approval period is up. This new application is due on March 3, 2014. Janice Stranahan is requesting that the

school keeps the .5 Responsibility Room to meet the .03 part-time counselor requirement the Primary School is technically short. If the variance is approved, as it was three years ago, the Responsibility Room will suffice as replacement for the school being short of counseling hours. This application must be approved by the board prior to submission to OPI.

Recommendation: Approve the request for variance.

Board Action Taken:

Trustee Bloom moved to approve the variance extension request to OPI as recommended for the school counselor position at the primary school.

Trustee Hoffman seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

All Board Members were present, and I took the minutes of the Board Meeting.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Vannesa Bargfrede
Business Manager / Clerk

Corvallis School District #1

P.O. Box 700 / 1045 Main

Corvallis, MT 59828

Phone: (406) 961-4211 Fax: (406) 961-5144

February 13, 2014

Monte Silk
Superintendent
961-4211

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High School Principal
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Curriculum Director
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Vannesa Bargfrede
Business Manager
District Clerk
961-4211

TO: Corvallis Board of Trustees
FROM: Monte Silk

SUBJECT: **SPECIAL SESSION**

Tuesday, February 18, 2014

6:00 P.M. Library

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items
3. Assessment Conference Presentation – Janice Stranahan, Lisa Nagel, Darci Herbstritt, Holly Snyder, Darci Herbstritt, Betty Jo Henry

SUBJECT: **REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Tuesday, February 18, 2014

7:00 P.M. Corvallis High School Library

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items
3. General Reports
4. Personnel
 - Certified Employment
 - Classified Employment
 - Extra-Contracts
 - Resignations
 - Transfers
 - Leaves of Absence
 - Substitute Teachers
5. Requests for Credit Approval
6. Nonresident requests for student attendance
7. Discussion and possible action regarding first reading of the following policies:
 - BP 8225 – Tobacco Free Policy
 - BP 3310 – Student Discipline
 - BP 4332 – Conduct on School Property
 - BP 1635 Internships.
 - BP 2158. Family Engagement Policy
 - BP 2171. Significant Writing Program.
8. Discussion and possible approval of bids for boiler and heating system installation at Corvallis High School
9. Request for approval of the proposed "2014-2015 School Year Calendar"

HOME OF THE BLUE DEVILS



10. Discussion of staffing, revenue and expenses, and preliminary enrollment numbers for the 2014-2015 fiscal year
11. Request the approval of Julie (Jill) Warren to serve a three (3) year term on the Corvallis Schools Foundation Board as voted on and approved at the Corvallis Schools Foundation board meeting held on 1/18/14
12. Request approval for an extension of a variance to OPI accreditation standards for school counselor requirements
13. Request approval for use of the high school lunch room and library for Hunter Safety classes for the spring of 2014
14. Request to approve the renewal of a cooperative wrestling agreement between Corvallis and Darby
15. Discussion and possible ratification of superintendent contract
16. Discussion of the January, 2014 *Board and Administrator* publication
17. Correspondence
18. Approval of Minutes
19. Approval of Bills
20. Adjournment

Corvallis School District #1

Meeting Of The Board of Trustees

Date: 2-18-2014

All Attendees Please Sign-In

• Name: Betty J. Kelly
Representing: _____

If you would like to address the Board during "Public Comment" state general topic:

• Name: DeeAnna Raver
Representing: Community

If you would like to address the Board during "Public Comment" state general topic:

• Name: Lisa Nagel
Representing: _____

If you would like to address the Board during "Public Comment" state general topic:

• Name: Darci Herbstreit
Representing: _____

If you would like to address the Board during "Public Comment" state general topic:

• Name: Jane Mayer
Representing: _____

If you would like to address the Board during "Public Comment" state general topic:

• Name: Holly Snyder
Representing: _____

If you would like to address the Board during "Public Comment" state general topic:

Corvallis School District #1

Meeting Of The Board of Trustees

Date: 2-18-2014

All Attendees Please Sign-In

• Name: Myra de Juan
Representing: _____

If you would like to address the Board during "Public Comment" state general topic:

• Name: _____
Representing: _____

If you would like to address the Board during "Public Comment" state general topic:

• Name: _____
Representing: _____

If you would like to address the Board during "Public Comment" state general topic:

• Name: _____
Representing: _____

If you would like to address the Board during "Public Comment" state general topic:

• Name: _____
Representing: _____

If you would like to address the Board during "Public Comment" state general topic:

• Name: _____
Representing: _____

If you would like to address the Board during "Public Comment" state general topic:

Corvallis School District #1 School Board Meeting

Date: 2-18-2014

Attendance of Administrators and Department Heads

- ☒ Bargfrede, Vannesa – Business Manager
- ☒ Bays, Larry – Transportation Director
- ☒ Bowen, Jim – Maintenance Director
- ☒ Carrasco, Daniel – Special Education Director
- ☒ Durgin, Richard – Middle School Principal
- ☒ Hendrickson, Russ – Technology Coordinator
- ☒ Ihde, Wendy – Curriculum Director
- ☐ Martin, Kathy – Food Service Director
- ☒ Stranahan, Janice – Primary School Principal
- ☐ Tucker, Tyson – High School Asst. Principal
- ☒ Wirt, Jason – High School Principal

Corvallis School District #1

P.O. Box 700 / 1045 Main
Corvallis, MT 59828

Phone: (406) 961-4211 Fax: (406) 961-5144

MAR 20 2014

SUPERINTENDENT
OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Monte Silk
Superintendent
961-4211

Jason Wirt
High School Principal
961-3201

Tyson Tucker
High School
Assistant Principal
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Technology Director
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Wendy Ihde
Curriculum Director
961-3007

Vannesa Bargfrede
Business Manager
District Clerk
961-4211

March 16, 2014

Accreditation and Educator preparation Division
Office of Public Instruction
PO Box 20251
Helena, MT 59620-2501

Re: Variances to Standards Application

To whom it may concern:

Corvallis School District submitted the Variances to Standards Application on 2-20-14 for Quentin Brown Primary. The Corvallis School District #1 Board of Trustees approved the application for an extension to the variance on 2-18-14. The "official" minutes of the meeting were approved on 3-11-14. I have enclosed a copy of the "official" minutes to attach to the application. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Janice Stranahan, Principal

Corvallis School District #1
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING and
REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2/18/2014

Special Session Meeting in High School Library

1. Called to order at 6:05p.m. by Chairman Wilbur Nisly

The School Board Trustees of Corvallis School District #1 met at a duly constituted and properly noticed meeting Tuesday evening in the High School Library.

Trustees Present: Wilbur Nisly, Tonia Bloom, Dan Wolsky, Kathy Harder-Brouwer, Ginny Hoffman and Adam Sangster.

Absent: Jennifer Channer

The Superintendent and District Clerk were present throughout the entire proceedings.

Others Present The administrators listed on the sheet attached to the minutes.

2. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items None.

3. Assessment Conference Presentation – Janice Stranahan, Lisa Nagel, Darci Herbstritt, Holly Snyder, Wendy Ihde, Betty Jo Henry

Primary school principal, Janice Stranahan, stated that she was pleased to be able to present to the Board the presentation the primary staff presented at the state level. Their presentation discussed how their school incorporated improvements of the CRT test scores for math and reading during the last 10 years for the third and fourth grade students. The primary school has made significant improvements when compared to state's benchmarks.

Handouts were distributed regarding the CRT test scores for the school compared to the state in proficient and advanced math and reading scores from 2003 until 2013 along with a handout detailing how student assessment data is tracked. The tracking data they compile is an indicator of academic progress in scores and not grades.

General discussion took place by each of the presenters regarding the following:

- General history of how the primary school looked at improving their test scores
- The first step to improving the test results was by establishing building accountability
- Combined efforts for each grade level to take steps to review data
- Teachers had to meet once a month in order to accomplish their goals
- Charts were developed to measure the assessment to determine benchmarks for September, January and May
- The setting was based upon the school wide goals
- Scores for advanced learners was discussed
- The steps of how they brought it all together as a team
- The math standards have changed three times in seven years

- The importance of professional development that is required for teachers to allow them to improve because of the constant changes
- A video was shown titled Ted talks education
 - Discussed the value and importance of human connection relationships for student improvement in learning

Mrs. Stranahan stated that she has the utmost respect for her staff, and she thanked them for their commitment to provide the best education to the students.

The board members thanked them for their presentation and for providing the state school wide comparison information. The primary school has done an amazing job in developing ways to improve their students test scores.

Recess 6:58 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting in the High School Library

1. Called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chairman Wilbur Nisly

2. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items None.

Chairman nicely requested to move agenda item number eight to the beginning of the meeting so the district could make a decision and possible bid award for the boiler and heating system installation at Corvallis high school. This change is in order to accommodate the public members attending the meeting.

8. Discussion and possible approval of bids for boiler and heating system installation at Corvallis High

Mr. Silk stated that Nick Salmon from CTA Engineers & Architectures was present to discuss the bid opening process and the bid information he received.

Mr. Salmon reported that the bids were opened at 4:05 P.M. in the high school. One (1) bid was received from Quality Construction Company in the amount of \$895,000 with the alternate of \$140,000 for the solar array. And one bid for the control systems from Electric Controls in the amount of 128,000.

Mr. Salmon stated that he was very surprised and disappointed by only having one bid submitted for the project. He has not seen this happen in the last 10 years regarding the projects he has worked on. However, there were quite a few companies interested in doing the project. Some companies stated they would have preferred to use a different type of core components (piping requirements etc.). Mr. Salmon recommended that the district speak to the legal department at MTSBA for their options. He felt the district may reject, redesign, rebid, and re-open the bid process by the end of March.

If the district decides to go and rebid the project, the timeframe for installation would require adjusting the schools schedule in September (working around students). Nick stated that \$550,000 of the project was just for construction the rest was for contingencies and asbestos issues.

Mr. Salmon recommended that the board authorize the administration and CTA to look at the project again and rebid it after checking with the school's legal counsel.

General discussion took place from all the board members regarding the distribution system, potential problems, the scope changes of the project, air exchange and temperature controls adjustments, the impact a rebid would have on the construction timeline.

Vanessa Bargfrede, Business Manager, asked Nick Salmon if CTA planned to increase their fees for the additional engineering costs to reevaluate and rebid the boiler system. Nick Salmon stated that there would not be any additional engineering costs to the district for the rebidding process.

Trustee Wolsky moved to approve that CTA Architects and Engineers and the District Administration contact MTSBA's legal department regarding moving forward based upon the information presented, and proceeded by trying to stay within budget and timelines noted.

Trustee Harder-Brouwer seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

3. General Reports

This agenda item is to allow administration to make any additional comments to their written reports submitted in the Board Packet.

High school principal

Mr. Wirt reported as noted in his board packet that he is working with the Bitterroot College to allow for students to get a head start on earning college credits without ever leaving our campus as well as doing it at a reduced cost rate. Mr. Wirt's goal is to offer one concurrent enrollment in every department if possible.

Technology department

Mr. Hendrickson reported that there had been some vandalism in the technology area. It appears that someone climbed up on the roof top of the primary school area and ripped off a wire that connects the primary's Internet to the high school. Russ stated that he was unsure if the person(s) who did the damage knew if they were actually damaging a technology line or just pulling out a wire. And law enforcement is involved in the investigation.

High school principal, Mr. Wirt, stated they've also had some recent window damage by having rocks thrown through some windows. The approximate cost for the window replacements will be about \$300 each.

Special education department

Mr. Carrasco offered a nice acknowledgment to Karen Chaffin who was awarded the 2013 – 2014 Western Region CSPD paraprofessional award of the year.

Mr. Silk publically gave a "big thank" you to Dan Carrasco for recommending the award to Karen Chaffin.

Curriculum director

Mrs. Ihde reported on the Map testing scores of the kindergarten students from fall to January. The scores increased from 7 points to 13 points. Mrs. Ihde is very encouraged by the scores, especially in math.

4. Personnel

<u>Extra Contracts:</u>	Brady Nagel	High School Assistant Boys Wrestling
<u>Resignations:</u>	Buckie Brawley	High School Assistant Wrestling Coach
	Judith Burhop	Primary School Teacher
	Catherine McCormick	Middle School Teacher
<u>Sub Teacher List:</u>	Jorden Gates	
	Ellen McKern	
	Rebecca Poteat	

Mr. Silk gave a public thank you to Judy Burhop for her 21 years of service to the district, and also to Cathy McCormick for her 17 years. They both served in the special education department and he wished them well in their retirement and their future. He stated that the district is losing some core teachers in the special education department.

Mr. Silk reported that Buckey Brawley was listed as a resignation, but Buckey had never turned in a resignation letter. Therefore, Mr. Silk had instructed Laura Gates, Payroll Clerk, to consider Mr. Brawley's contract null and void as recommended by the Business Manager.

**Trustee Bloom moved to approve the personnel recommendations as presented.
Trustee Hoffman seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.**

5. Requests for Credit Approval

Name	Class	Credits	Lane Change
Burhop, Judith	Life Lessons from Dr. Seuss: Kindness in K-5 Classroom Heritage Institute	3 Quarter	No

**Trustee Hoffman moved to approve the requests for credit approval as listed.
Trustee Sangster seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.**

6. Non-resident Student Requests for Enrollment

<u>Primary School:</u>	Campbell Brown	Kindergarten-transfer from Hamilton
	Errol Nagy	Kindergarten-transfer from Hamilton

Middle School:

Jackson Tully 8th Grade
 Jackson has attended CMS since sixth grade. He is a strong student. His family recently moved to Hamilton.

High School:

McKenna Passkey 10 Grade McKenna is a sophomore transferring to us from Hamilton.
 Kyle Perkins 10 Grade Kyle lives in Hamilton and has recently been educated through Christian Educator's Academy. Kyle is a sophomore
 Krysta Friday 11 Grade Krysta is a junior transferring to us from Stevensville.

**Trustee Bloom moved to approve the non-resident student requests for attendance.
 Trustee Harder-Brouwer seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.**

7. Dissection and possible action regarding first reading of the following policies:

- BP 8225 – Tobacco Free Policy
- BP 3310 – Student Discipline
- BP 4332 – Conduct on School Property
- BP 1635 Internships.
- BP 2158. Family Engagement Policy
- BP 2171. Significant Writing Program

Mr. Silk reviewed the information as noted in the Board Packet:

BP 8225, 3310, & 4332. Electronic cigarettes or e-cigarettes are not clearly covered in our current policies. At Jason Wirt's request to include e cigarettes in our policies, I contacted MTSBA, and they suggested changes to two of our policies and recommended the addition of a new policy. Policies 8225 is the new policy from the MTSBA, and in order to make e-cigarettes a banned substance in existing policies 3310 and 4332, I have amended them to include nicotine products and e-cigarettes specifically, because not all e-cigarettes have nicotine in them. I have enclosed a description/definition of e-cigarettes from Wikipedia.

**Trustee Wolsky moved to approve Policies 8225, 3310 and 4332 on first reading presented.
 Trustee Sangster seconded the motion.**

General discussion took place regarding some minor recommended wording changes.
All voted in favor.

The following is Joe Brott's explanation of recommended policy changes for:

BP 1635 Internships. The current Internship policy was under the Administration (6000) series and referred only to Superintendents. MTSBA felt it was better to move this policy to the Trustee (1000) series and have it include certified, other administrators, and superintendents. Many districts are employing these people under an internship program. In doing so, many districts are calling and asking the procedure that must be followed. This policy was developed based on the legal references indicated at the bottom of the policy. MTSBA recommends districts adopt this revised policy.

Trustee Bloom moved to approve Policy 1635 on first reading.
Trustee Wolsky seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

BP 2158. Family Engagement Policy. ARM 10.55.701(m), Board of Trustees, requires a district have a comprehensive family engagement policy aligned to meet the goals as stated in 10.55.701(m) (i-vi). MTSBA developed the model policy based on this rule and the goals stated. The second page of the policy can be adjusted to meet the district's plan for meeting the goals. The TEAMS report does ask each district if they have a Family Engagement Policy. This is a required policy.

Trustee Sangster moved to approve Policy 2158 on first reading.
Trustee Hoffman seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

BP 2171. Significant Writing Program. ARM 10.55.701(2) (p) states that each school district shall make available to the staff and public a policy that defines a significant writing program (SWP). I visited in length with OPI regarding this policy as it is asked for in the recent TEAMS reporting. OPI stated that a district is not required to have a significant writing program, but is required to have a policy. The policy MTSBA developed has two options, one for a district with a SWP and one for a district that does not have a SWP. The teacher maximum load size is a requirement for a SWP. This is a required policy.

Administrators recommended option 2.

Trustee Hoffman moved to approve Policy 2171 with option 2 as recommended on first reading.
Trustee Sangster seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

9. Request for approval of the proposed "2014-2015 School Year Calendar"

The School Calendar Committee members included Krista Votaw, Darci Herbstritt, Kristy Schlingen, Rich Durgin, Dan Carrasco, and Jason Wirt. Dan facilitated the meetings and the District Office handled the voting process. The Calendar Committee recommended two calendars to all employees for a vote. Calendar Option 1 received 102 votes; Option 2 received 50 votes. Options 2 had a shorter spring break.

Mr. Silk, asked Dan Carrasco to report to the board regarding the school calendar committee's decision making process.

Mr. Carrasco said the committee looked at the Five Year Plan, along with the changes that required the additional PIR day for teacher instruction. By adding one full PIR day, the committee recommended making three early releases for teachers during the early out time of students. This would allow for the same 180 pupil instruction days.

Mr. Carrasco reviewed the comparison of the two calendar options offered by the committee.

Trustee Nisly noted that both calendars seem to have long breaks, and asked if that was that in the best interest of educating students. Mr. Nisly also stated that he had concerns with the three early out releases allowed to the teachers in lieu of the one additional PIR day. His concerns were based upon the administrators' recommendation to add a full professional development day for teachers. He said this addition of early release days in the calendar does not actually add an additional full day of teacher's professional development.

Trustee Wolsky stated he would like to have a survey developed to see if the long breaks are in the same interest of the teachers as the students and parents. He also asked if the parents would like to see the student's school year end a week earlier by shortening some break time. And should the Hamilton and Corvallis Schools' look at trying to communicate in a joint effort by having somewhat of a comparable school calendar for the community's sake.

Technology Director, Russ Hendrickson, stated it has been a hard challenge to scheduled SBAC testing around the spring break periods. He said the administration and Calendar Committee should consider that when recommending a calendar option to the Board for approval.

Trustee Harder-Brouwer noted that the committee needed to correct the date numbering in October – the week of 12th.

Mrs. Ihde confirmed the calendar options provided requires the teachers to come to school 185 days next year, instead of 184 (like this year).

The Board noted the teacher's contract says the teacher's salary is based on 187 days.

Trustee Sangster moved to approve Calendar Option #1 for the 2014-2015 School Calendar Year.

Trustee Harder-Brouwer moved to second the motion with an amendment to correct the dates in the month of October.

Trustee Nisly stated that he would be voting against the recommendation because adding staff release time in lieu of adding an additional professional day was not what he understood as the intent by the administration recommendation presented to the Board.

**Five trustees voted in favor of the motion.
Trustee Nisly voted against the motion.**

10. Discussion of staffing, revenue and expenses, and preliminary enrollment numbers for the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

Mr. Silk reviewed the information as noted in his Board Packet:

Statewide, Senate Bill 175 provides school districts an increase in K-12 BASE aid of \$16.1 million in FY 2014 and \$17.7 in FY 2015. The money is provided to all school districts through inflationary increases to all per-ANB entitlements, a new Data for Achievement payment (\$15/ANB in 2015), and a new K-12 natural resource development funding payment.

Per-ANB inflationary increases guarantee that all district budgets affected by ANB will receive inflationary adjustments for the second year of the biennium. The per-ANB entitlements increased by 0.89% in FY 14 (2013-2014) and will increase by 2.08% in FY 2015 (2014-2015). The average per-ANB amount for the Corvallis School district is \$5,714. All things being equal, the 2.08% increase would be a positive increase to the local budget, however, the district has lost about 20 students during the 2013-2014 school year; thereby, negating any actual increase in state aid to the district. In spite of the difficulty of balancing the budget and still maintaining all current programs for students, it is expected that the same opportunities for all students will be continued for the next fiscal year.

As we plan to maintain programs for next year, the cost of personnel and potential raises will factor into all planning this spring. We do have two resignations in the district in the special education department, but that only provides a cushion in the event federal IDEA revenue is reduced, and we will still need to reduce staff by the equivalent of two teachers, not counting the special education resignations; therefore, I will be working with the administrators to reduce our general fund budget to balance revenues and expenditures.

Mr. Silk and the Business Manager both noted that the final General Fund budget information should be provided to them from OPI during the first week of March.

11. Request the approval of Julie (Jill) Warren to serve a three (3) year term on the Corvallis Schools Foundation Board has voted on and approved at the Corvallis Schools Foundation board meeting held on 1/18/14.

The copy of the bylaws included in the Board Packet, indicate in Section 3 that the nominees for directors of the Corvallis Schools Foundation shall be approved by the School Board of Trustees. The Foundation is asking for approval of Julie Warren for a three (3) year term.

Trustee Wolsky moved to approve Jill Warren's membership on the Corvallis Schools Foundation Board for a three year term.

Trustee Sangster seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Business Manager, Vannesa Bargfrede, stated that she is excited to have a teacher on the Foundation's Board. And Jill will be a great asset as a Director on the Board. However, Vannesa said she would like for the School Board or Administration to set guidelines as to what type of leave may be used by school staff when the Foundation meetings are held during a school day. Vannesa feels other school staff members may be interested in being on the Board, and that is why she would like to have the leave defined that will set precedence.

The Board noted that it would be up to Mr. Silk to look at the guidelines of leave use, and determine the appropriate type of leave required in this type of situation.

12. Request approval for an extension of a variance to OPI accreditation standards for school counselor requirements

Mr. Silk stated that this request for approval of a variance request to the Board and OPI is a renewal of a previously approved application, because the three year approval period is up. This new application is due on March 3, 2014. Janice Stranahan is requesting that the school keeps the .5 Responsibility Room position to meet the .03 part-time counselor requirements the Primary School is technically short. If the variance is approved, as it was three years ago, the Responsibility Room position will suffice as replacement for the school being short of counseling hours. This application must be approved by the board prior to submission to OPI.

Trustee Bloom moved to approve the variance extension request to OPI as recommended for the school counselor position at the primary school.

Trustee Hoffman seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

13. Request approval for use of the high school lunchroom and library for Hunter Safety classes for the spring of 2014.

Mr. Silk stated the Hunter Safety students will not be using real guns or live ammunition, but simulated weapons still fall under our policy 3311, Firearms and Weapons. That is the reason Mr. Silk is bringing this agenda to the board for approval.

According to Policy 3311, Firearms and Weapons,

"The Board may grant persons and entities advance permission to possess, carry, or store a weapon school building. All persons who wish to possess, carry, or store a weapon in a school building must request permission or the Board at a regular meeting. The Board has sole discretion in deciding whether to allow a person to possess, carry, or store a weapon in a school building".

Trustee Wolsky moved to approve the use of the high school lunchroom area and library for Hunter Safety classes for the spring of 2014.

Trustee Sangster seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

14. Request to approve the renewal of a cooperative wrestling agreement between Corvallis and Darby.

The current cooperative agreement in wrestling between the Corvallis School District and Darby expires this year. Mr. Tucker is requesting a renewal of the same agreement for another three years.

Trustee Wolsky moved to approve the three-year renewal of a cooperative wrestling agreement between the Corvallis School District and the Darby School District with Corvallis designated as the "host" school per MHSA guidelines.

Trustee Sangster seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

15. Discussion and possible ratification of Superintendent Contract

Mr. Silk stated that he added this agenda item in case the Board of Trustees was ready to approve a contract for Tim Johnson, the future superintendent of the Corvallis School District.

The Board noted that MTSBA has given Tim Johnson the intent to hire offer. A final contract is in the process, but will not be offered until a fingerprint background check has been completed.

Recess 8:57 p.m.

Reconvene 9:02 p.m.

16. Discussion of the January, 2014 Board and Administrator publication.

Mr. Silk summarized the January issue with the following statement from the Board Packet:

When the board faces difficult people or critical comments at the board meetings, it is suggested that listening, rather than answering, is the best way to make the person feel respected and believe that the message was heard. It is the "seek first to understand, then to be understood" advice given by many consultants in corporate and educational leadership seminars.

He appreciates the board's strong commitment to the proper role of the board as stated in the publication:

"We will emphasize planning, policy making, and public relations, leaving management to the administration."

The Board agreed that they always try to handle their board meetings in the way described, and understand the importance of it.

17. Correspondence

- A letter from the Montana School Boards Association to take the opportunity to express their appreciation of the board's ongoing membership and to highlight some of the key benefits of membership for districts and elected trustees.
- A letter from the Corvallis Board of Trustees to the Ravalli Valley County Commissioners that file a formal complaint on behalf of the school district regarding the non-receipt of monthly cash reports. The letter also thanked the commissioners, in advance, for their attention to such an urgent matter.

18. Approval of Minutes

Trustee Sangster moved to approve the minutes dated 01/14/2014, 01/21/2014 and 01/27/2014.

Trustee Hoffman seconded the motion.

It was noted that the minutes dated 1/14/2014 on page 7 of the minutes - the last two numbered items in the minutes need to correlate with the actual agenda item numbers.
All voted in favor.

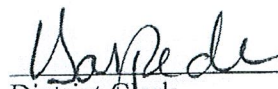
19. Approval of Bills

Trustee Hoffman moved to approve the bills as presented.
Trustee Bloom seconded the motion.

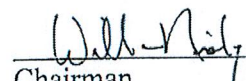
There was a question regarding the payment to the Ravalli Republic Newspaper regarding what fund covers the expenses for the ad publications for the Adult Education courses offerings. The Business Manager stated that the Adult Education Fund covers the ad advertisements for the courses advertised to the public.
All voted in favor.

Adjournment

Trustee Wolsky moved to adjourn.
Adjournment – 9:36p.m.



District Clerk



Chairman